

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 35 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 2, 9, 23, 27 and 32 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claims 1, 9, 23, 27 and 32 are the only independent claims.

Claim 2 was objected to in that “characterised” is spelled incorrectly and has been amended to replace “characterised in that” by --wherein--.

Claims 1-7, 9-14 and 16-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,640,244 (Bowman-Amuah). Claims 8 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as anticipated by Bowman-Amuah in view of U.S. Patent 6,606,103 (Hamlet et al.). With regard to the claims as currently amended, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1 and 23 as currently amended are directed to an arrangement for transmitting pages of an electronic document from a client station to a server station connected by a communication network in which the document is processed by a processing peripheral. In the arrangement, processing orders are generated corresponding to pages of an electronic document to be processed. The processing orders grouped by document page are stored and a message is sent requesting processing of the document to a server station. In transmitting the pages, a request message referred to as a page request sent by the server station is received. The page request includes information identifying a document page. Processing orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request are translated into a computer

communication language. A response message containing translated processing orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request is sent to the server station.

Independent Claims 9 and 27 are directed to an arrangement for processing an electronic document. An electronic document is a server station connected via a communication network to one or more client stations. The server station manages at least one electronic document processing peripheral. In the arrangement, a message coming from a client station is received. The message includes page identification information identifying a page of an electronic document to be processed by a document processing peripheral managed by the server station. A request message referred to as a page request is sent to the client station. The page request includes page identification information and is aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the identified page. In response to the sending of the request message, a response message from the client station is received. The response message contains processing orders corresponding to the identified page translated into a computer communication language.

Independent Claim 32 as currently amended is directed to a computer system that has at least one of a device that transmits pages of an electronic document and a device that processes an electronic document. In the transmitting device, a receiving unit receives a request message referred to as a page request that is sent by a server. The page request includes page identification information identifying a page of the document. A translating unit translates processing orders corresponding to the identified page in the page request and a sending unit sends a response message to a server that includes the translated processing orders corresponding to the identified page. In the processing device, a receiving unit receives a message from a client

station. the message includes page identification information identifying a page identifying a page of the electronic document to be processed. A sending unit sends a page request to the client station. The page request includes the page identification information and is aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the page identification information. A response message receiving unit receives a response message from the client station. The response message includes the orders corresponding to the identified page translated into the computer communication language.

In Applicants' view, Bowman-Amuah discloses an arrangement that provides batching logical requests to reduce network traffic. A group of business objects necessary for a transaction are provided and managed in a logical unit of work. Logically-related requests received from the logical unit of work are grouped into a first single network message, and update and retrieval transactions are grouped into a second single network message. The first and second messages are stored, and the first message is sent upon receiving an order to send the first message and the second message is sent upon receiving an order to send the second message.

According to the invention defined in Claims 1, 9 23, 27 and 32, a page request of a request message sent by a server station is received. The page request has information identifying a page of a document. Processing orders corresponding to the identified page are translated into a computer communication language and a response message containing the translated processing orders corresponding to the identified page are sent to the server station.

Bowman-Amuah discloses a request batching arrangement for logical requests that reduces network traffic in which logically related requests are grouped into a first network

message and update and retrieval transactions are grouped into a second network message. The messages are sent in response to respective orders for the first and second messages. In contrast to Bowman-Amuah, it is a feature of Claims 1 and 23 that a page request which includes information identifying a page of a document sent by a server station is received. Bowman-Amuah is devoid of any teaching or suggestion of sending page requests which include information identifying a page as in Claims 1, 9 23, 27 and 32.

As clearly disclosed with respect to Figs. 4 and 6 of the present application, information identifying a page of a document is included in the page request message and computer communication language processing orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request are sent to the server station. Rather than receiving page requests and sending processing orders in response messages, Bowman-Amuah discloses that metadata is attached to a message which metadata includes information concerning elements of data of the message. Further, Bowman-Amuah's only teaches translation of programming instructions (e.g., SQL calls) but fails to suggest the translating of processing orders corresponding to an identified page of a page request which permits the server station to adapt its configuration as disclosed at lines 24-30 of page 3 of the specification. Accordingly, it is not seen that Bowman-Amuah's attaching metadata to a message with information only concerning elements of the data of a message and translating programming instructions in any manner teaches or suggests receiving of page requests for identified pages and sending translated processing orders corresponding to a page identified in a received message as in Claims 1, 9, 23, 27 and 32. In at least the foregoing

respects, it is believed that Claims 1, 9, 23, 27 and 32 are completely distinguished from Bowman-Amuah and are allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 23, 27 and 32 is patentably defined over the cited art, whether that art is taken individually or in combination.

Dependent claims 2-8, 10-22, 24-26, 28-31 and 33-35 also should be deemed allowable, in their own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Further individual consideration of these dependent claims is requested.

Applicants further submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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